

Application No. 09/743,649

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IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method of controlling a system for processing stored information on a storage medium, comprising the steps of:

(A) playing back stored information during a play mode of operation;

(B) providing to a user, during play mode of operation, an opportunity to select a bookmark, representing a corresponding location at any point within the stored information, from among a plurality of bookmarks responsive to user input; and

(C) changing to playing back the stored information from the location corresponding to the selected bookmark during the play mode of operation, wherein (B) includes

determining a maximum number of the plurality of bookmarks which is associated with the storage medium;

generating an on-screen menu displaying the maximum number of the plurality of bookmarks available and the actually available ones of the plurality of bookmarks associated with the storage medium, the menu allowing the user to perform one of:

(a) set a new bookmark;

(b) select a bookmark and clearing the selected bookmark,

(c) select a bookmark and play back the stored information from the location corresponding to the selected bookmark, and

(d) undo a previously performed operation

while continuing to watch program information playback in a background portion of the video display.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

grouping the plurality of bookmarks into sets each having a predetermined number of bookmarks;

storing each group of bookmarks; and

providing to the user an opportunity to retrieve a desired set of bookmarks

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

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step (B) further comprises the step of providing to the user an opportunity to select a first and a second bookmark from among the plurality of bookmarks, and step (C) further comprises the step of changing to playback the stored information from the location corresponding to the first selected bookmark to the location corresponding to the location of the second bookmark.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein step (C) further comprises the step of selectively continually repeating the playback of the stored information from the location corresponding to the first selected bookmark to the location corresponding to the location of the second bookmark, in response to user control.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the storage medium is a DVD disk, and wherein:

the step of determining the bookmarks actually present for the particular DVD disk comprises evaluating data related to the DVD disk in non-volatile memory in the disk player.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein step (B) is preceded by the step of determining whether a mode of operation enabling user access to bookmarks during play mode of operation is enabled; and

performing steps (B) and (C) only if the mode of operation user access to bookmarks during play mode of operation is enabled.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the system comprises a DVD player and the storage medium comprises a DVD disk.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the step of setting a new bookmark in response to a user command comprises storing data associated with a pause function, including the nearest NAV_PACK address, in conformance with the DVD specification.

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9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of changing playback from a new bookmarked location comprises launching a user operative RESUME command, using a stored NAV_PACK address, in conformance with the DVD specification.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein step (C) further comprises the steps of selecting a first and second bookmark and continually repeating playing back the stored information from the location corresponding to the first selected bookmark to location corresponding to the second selected bookmark.

11. (Previously Presented) Apparatus for processing information stored on a storage medium, comprising:

a data processing unit for accessing and processing information stored on the storage medium during the play mode of operation of the apparatus:

a user control device for receiving user input;

an on-screen display device for generating on-screen displays; and

a controller, coupled to the data processing unit, the user control device, and the on-screen display device, for activating the play mode of operation, and providing to a user during the play mode of operation an opportunity to access previously stored bookmarks, each bookmark representing a corresponding location at any point within the stored information, wherein

the controller determines a maximum number of the plurality of bookmarks which is associated with the storage medium, and which of the maximum number of the plurality of bookmarks are actually available for the storage medium, and

the on-screen display unit generates an on-screen menu displaying the maximum number of the plurality of bookmarks available and the actually available ones of the plurality of bookmarks associated with the storage medium, the menu allowing the user to perform one of:

(a) set a new bookmark;

(b) select a bookmark and clearing the selected bookmark,

(c) select a bookmark and playing back the stored information from the location corresponding to the selected bookmark, and

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(d) allow the user to undo a previously performed operation

while continuing to watch the information playback in a background portion of a video display.